

# Summarise Chapter 1

## Part A

Can you sum up the main points of what you have read? Complete the following sentence starters to develop this skill.

In the first paragraph of the chapter, we are told that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The characters that appear in this chapter are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The main thing that happens in this chapter is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

At the end of the chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If I had to give this chapter a name, I would call it \_\_\_\_\_

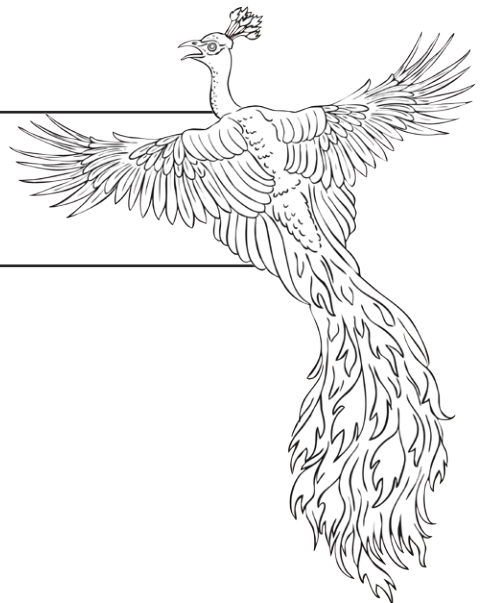
because \_\_\_\_\_

If I had to sum up what happens in this chapter in under ten words, I would say \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Key words to help you:

firebird, brothers, tsar, golden apples, catch, thief.



# Summarise Chapter 1

## Part B

Write a précis for the following section of text. A précis is a summary of a longer text.

Read through the passage, check you understand it and then underline the most important information. (Remember to look up any words you are not sure about.) Next, look at this important information and use this to help you write sentences for your précis. Work on one paragraph at a time.

Your précis should be about a quarter/a third of the length of the original text below.

Dmitry had been partying the night before, and inevitably he found this boring night watch extremely dull. His eyelids grew heavy and though he jolted himself awake a couple of times, it was not long before he fell into a deep sleep. He snored loudly, and the next sound he heard was the sound of his father's voice wailing in disbelief.

"How can you have let this happen?" the tsar cried. Dmitry rose to his feet but he knew straight away that he had failed to stay awake and that the thief had taken another of his father's apples.

The following night, it was the turn of the middle son, Vasily, to catch the thief. He was not particularly concerned with gaining half of his father's kingdom; he was a dreamer and an extremely talented musician. Although he enjoyed his comfortable life in the palace, he had no desire to become richer. He brought with him to the garden a delicious range of nuts and treats and a flute to help the time pass more quickly. Vasily did much better than his older brother had done as, at half past two in the morning, he was still dancing and playing lively tunes around the orchard. However, by three o'clock in the morning, he was slumped in an exhausted heap beneath his father's treasured tree. At some time between three and six in the morning, therefore, the thief must have struck again, because at six o'clock a very disappointed tsar stormed into the orchard and woke Vasily with a sharp poke in the ribs with his flute! To make matters worse for poor Vasily, his nuts and treats had also disappeared.

"Surely, it is my turn now," exclaimed Ivan, the youngest son, as he met with his father later that day. "I should be allowed my chance to catch the thief."

"I see no point, Ivan," replied the tsar. "You are a good boy but you are still so young and foolish. Why would you be able to catch the thief when both your brothers have not been able to?"

"Well, I can assure you..." began the strong-willed prince, but his father was already waving him away, with a look of annoyance on his face.

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# Summarise Chapter 1 Answers

## Part A

Example answers:

In the first paragraph of the chapter, we are told that *the tsar has a tree which produces golden apples and that he has three sons.*

The characters that appear in this chapter are *Tsar Vislav, Dmitry, Vasily, Ivan, Erik, guards and the firebird.*

The main thing that happens in this chapter is *the tsar's sons try to catch the thief who is stealing their father's golden apples. The older brothers fall asleep but Ivan manages to grasp a feather from the thief, who is a firebird.*

At the end of the chapter, *Ivan is left holding a feather from the firebird as the bird has struggled away from his grasp.*

If I had to give this chapter a name, I would call it *'The Missing Apples'* because *it is the mystery of who is taking the apples that is the main focus of this chapter.*

If I had to sum up what happens in this chapter in under ten words, I would say *'Brothers try to catch golden apple thief'.*

## Part B

*Dmitry was tired from partying when he started his night watch. He soon fell into a deep sleep and as soon as he heard his father's voice the next morning, he knew he had let the thief take another apple.*

*Vasily, a dreamer and a talented musician, brought nuts, treats and a flute along to help him to stay awake but eventually he fell asleep (just before three o'clock in the morning.) His father was angry with him and poked him awake with a jab in the ribs with his flute.*

*The youngest son, Ivan, was then waved away when he asked his father for a turn at catching the thief. The strong-willed prince was told that he was too young and foolish to catch the thief when his older brothers had not been able to.*

### Challenge Task

Example answer:

*I think that Ivan will be the one to succeed in catching the firebird because he has shown determination in the story so far. I think he will go on to be the main character in the next chapter. I think he will leave the kingdom to find the firebird if the firebird does not return to the orchard. I think he will lay a trap for the firebird after working out where it lives.*